Junior Telecom Officers, Telecom Technical Assistants and Motor Drivers for Haryana Circle.

E-Mail Facilities in North-Eastern Region

2032. SHRI ONWARD L. NONGTDU: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria adopted to provide E-mail facilities in the country;

(b) the number of cities in the country particularly in the States of NER where said facility has been provided; and

(c) the details of percentage of said facilities available in the country, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) E-Mail facility in the country can be provided by any Internet Service Provider (ISP) or E-mail operator licensed by Department of Telecom (DOT). Since 1994, licenses for E-mail service were granted by DOT. Since announcement of Internet policy in Nov. 1998, licences have been granted to ISPs who are providing Internet Services. E-mail facility is a part of Internet Service.

(b) and (c) The access to Internet is available to the subscribers throughout the country on Local call basis excepting andaman & Nicobar Islands and Leh. The following are the Internet modes working in the North East Region:—

1. Shilong
2. Agartala
3. Guwahati
4. Silchar

Pending Application for STD/ISD/PCO in Meghalaya

2033. SHRI ONWARD L. NONGTDU: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of STD/ISD/PCO booths functioning in the